'NEORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Csechoslovakia REPC	DRT
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	2. Reorganisation of the Ministry of Domestic Trade NO.	OF PAGES 1
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1. Rumors about Constitutional Changes

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The talk of the day in Czechoslovakia is that fundamental changes in the administration of the country are to take place soon. These are to include a change in the Constitution, as a result of which the country will be run more completely according to the Soviet pattern. Many people believe that in the course of these changes Zapotocky will be relegated to the background. According to these rumors, General Ludvik Svoboda is likely to be made head of state, after the Soviet model.

2. Reorganization of the Ministry of Domestic Trade

Early in 1955, a reorganization took place in the Ministry of Domestic Trade, as a result of which 566 employees of the Ministry proper were dismissed. This Ministry was the first to take such a drastic step toward cutting down personnel and has thereby won the emphatic praise of the Presidium. This reduction is tantamount to firing 30 percent of all employees. Other government departments and agencies, as well as the central administrations of nationalized industries, are to follow swit. Reduction of personnel in these offices is supposed to amount to 10-15 percent of their totals. This reduction in office workers appears to be connected with the drive for more agricultural labor.

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